22. **Police.**—The total number of cognizable cases taken up by the Police, including the arrears of the previous year, fell from 3,631 to 3,483. The number of undetected cases was only 277, against 502 in 1090 and 411 in 1091. The percentage of detection rose from 52 in 1090 and 59 in 1091 to 63 in 1092. The percentage of conviction rose from 53 in 1091 to 59 in 1092 and that of property recovered from 48 to 51. The total number of grave crimes committed was only 1,609 against 1,965 in 1090 and 1,794 in 1091, while those brought to conviction rose from 675 in 1090 and 776 in 1091 to 852 in 1092. The Government are glad to note that the results show appreciable improvement in all directions. Mr. Cunningham observes that the improvement in the efficiency of the Sub-Inspectors was particularly noticeable in the Trivandrum and Nagercoil Districts where those officers, under the new arrangement brought into force with effect from the beginning of 1092, were in direct touch with the District Superintendents of Police. The Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Nagercoil District was made a District Superintendent and the Circles of the Quilon District were reduced by one. Five of the outposts abolished in 1088 were reopened, three in the Quilon District and two in the Kottayam District. The year was also marked by the introduction of improved methods of surveillance of known depredators.

23. **Military.**—In conformity with the system adopted by the British Indian Infantry regiments, the six companies of the First Battalion, Nayar Brigade, were reorganised into four.

24. **Central Prison.**—Government are glad to note that there was a decided improvement in the health of the inmates of the Central Prison. The percentage of sick to strength was 1·4 against 1·8 and the daily average of sick 8·9 against 10·5 in 1091, while the number of deaths fell from 32 to 15. The Superintendent states that the temporary revision of the diet scale, involving among other things the inclusion of dhall, the supply of more wholesome water for drinking and bathing purposes and the cooking of food in the new fly-proof kitchen, have in some measure contributed to this gratifying result. A cochrane boiler and duplex steam pump were supplied to the Central Prison, and by means of this arrangement water from the newly sunk well was conveyed through pipes to a tank at the main gate mounted on a masonry platform, in which water was stored and thence taken inside the Jail through further pipes wherever necessary. With the object of further improving the working of the Central Prison, the revision of the Jail Rules has been taken in hand and a Special Committee appointed for the purpose.

25. **Courts of Law.**—The year opened with heavy arrears in the High Court and some of the District Courts and was marked by a fresh increase in the volume of original litigation throughout the State. The rise in the volume of original litigation from 1085, the year in which the Civil Courts Amendment Regulation, II of 1084, increasing the pecuniary jurisdiction of Munsiffs, came into force, has been marked, as the figures given in the annual reports will show. The aggregate number of suits, ordinary and small cause, increased from 51,312 in 1085 to 73,648 in 1092. To cope with the growing volume of litigation, both original and appellate, it has been found necessary to extend the period of several temporary Courts and to sanction the continuance of the Third Bench in the High Court till the close of 1093. The Additional Division First Class Magistrate's Court, tentatively opened in 1089, was made permanent towards the close of 1092, as there is ample work for two Division First Class Magistrates in the Kottayam Division. The work of the Village Panchayat Courts, opened at the beginning of 1092, was characterised by promptness and efficiency, and I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to the non-official gentlemen who served as Judges during the year the thanks of the Government for their valuable work.

26. **Registration.**—The State was divided into three Registration Districts in 1073, when the number of Sub-registry Offices was 45 and of the documents presented for registration 1,51,656. In 1092 the number of offices was 75 and of the documents presented for registration 2,60,966. With a view to ensure the thorough and frequent inspection of Sub-registry Offices, the number of Registration Districts has been raised from three to four with effect from the 1st Dhanu 1093.

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